

Milk does a body good

New dairy centre helps researchers make it even better.

2

What price education?

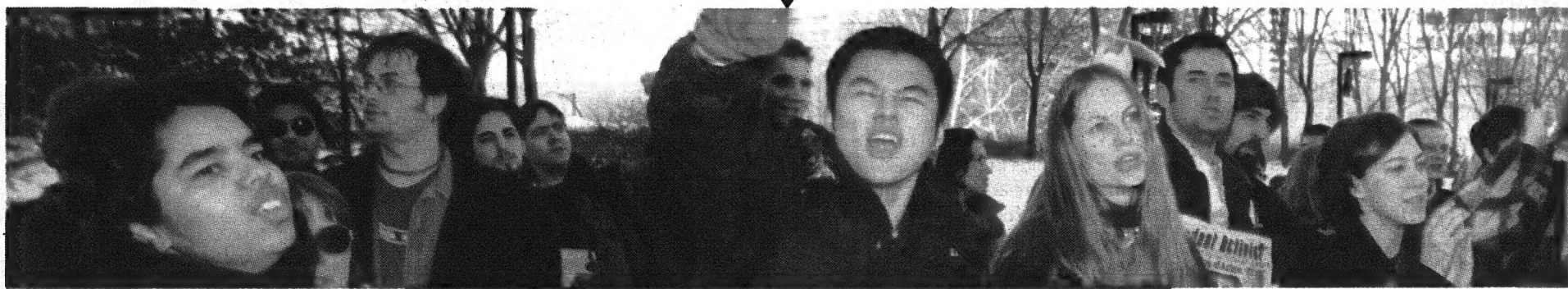
Students say they can't pay more. Administrators worry about working with less.

3

Butting out

U of A researchers help poor smokers break the habit.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

folio

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<http://www.ualberta.ca/~publicas/folio>

U of A doctors provide a second chance at life for Panamanian toddler

Jose Moran needs life-saving surgery to repair a heart defect

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

Little Jose Moran is running out of time. The 14-month-old Panamanian toddler needs surgery to correct an intricate heart defect or he will die. But U of A doctors hope to give him a fighting chance to be a bouncing baby boy once again.

A team of specialists at the Stollery Children's Health Centre has donated their services to perform cardiac surgery on Jose Moran February 6, a procedure he should have received when he was months old.

Little Jose was born with Down's Syndrome. He has severe pulmonary hypertension and a complete atrial ventricular septal defect. That means the valves between the two atria and two ventricles of his heart have not properly developed. As a result, there is one large valve functioning for all four chambers, putting his heart under severe stress.

"It's the most common heart defect for babies with Down's Syndrome," says Dr. Michael Kantoch, a cardiologist and U of A assistant professor in pediatrics. Kantoch says the operating procedure is fairly standard and the outcome is usually very good.

Kantoch conducted the necessary assessment tests on Jose for pediatric cardiac surgeon, Dr. Ivan Rebeyka, who performed the surgery. Other U of A doctors volunteering their services include Dr. Alfred Conradi, ICU intensivist and Dr. Rob Seal, anesthetist. Local pediatrician,



Dad Ricaurte Robles, Mom Sadia Moran, Jose Moran, Grandfather Antonio Moran

Dr. Lyle McGonigle, has also waived his fees.

Hopefully, the toddler is now one step closer to living a healthier life.

It all started because Jose Moran could not get the surgery he needed in Panama. And he was turned down by doctors in Columbia because of the lack of proper medical resources there. Meanwhile, Jose's condition worsened and his family became desperate.

That's when the Alberta Association for Community Living stepped in. It's a

Continued on page 2

- 14-month-old Jose Moran has severe pulmonary hypertension and a complete atrial ventricular septal defect (one valve instead of two functioning for the four chambers of the heart)
- Approximately 45 per cent of all children born with Down's Syndrome have congenital heart defects
- Pediatric specialists have waived their fees for the surgery on February 6, 1998
- The Capital Health Authority says the hospital costs could total \$100,000
- More than \$30,000 has been raised so far
- Donations can be made by calling the AAAL at 451-3055 or 1-800-252-7556

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Milk does a body good

"Designer cows" and innovative milk products focus of new Dairy Research and Technology Centre

By Lee Elliott

But can they make it chocolate?

It's common to see products change to fit consumer demand: low-fat ice cream, high-protein breakfast shakes, sodium-free soups.

But who'd have thought of "designer" cows to produce "new and improved" milk? Apparently researchers at the new U of A Dairy Research and Technology Centre are putting a lot of thought into it.

On February 2, the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics cut the ribbon on a new million dollar dairy research facility which features 90 new stalls and allows the U of A to expand its herd to 125 milking cows. The facility is the result of a five-year research agreement with the Alberta Milk Producers and Alberta Agriculture, Food and Rural Development. The agreement represents over \$700,000 in funding commitments.

"The opening of the new dairy research facility is a pivotal event for me and other dairy researchers at the University of Alberta," says Dr. John Kennelly, professor and chair of the Department of Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science.

The expansion will allow research aimed at meeting both consumer needs and the needs of the \$600 million dollar Alberta dairy industry.

"I guess consumers have always been conscious of quality," says Kennelly. "But now they're interested in getting milk with less fat." They're also concerned about the type of fat in their milk.

"We can deal with both these concerns with genetics and nutrition [of cows]," he says. To help the dairy industry, researchers are also working on the composition of

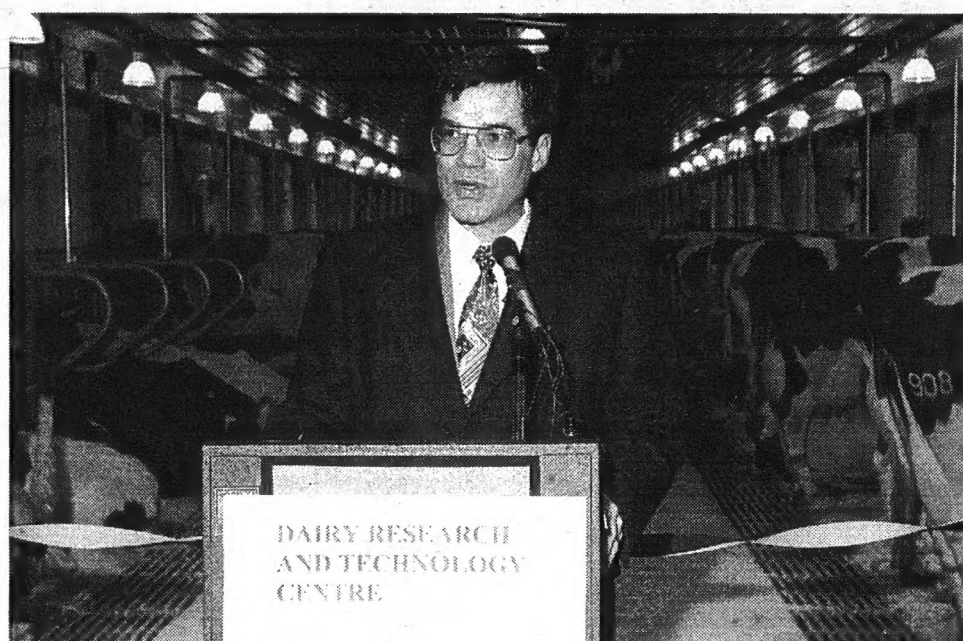
milk—to maximize the components needed to make cheese for instance.

The key to keeping ahead of the ever-changing demands of both industry and consumers is more knowledge. "If you can understand what controls the composition of the milk, you have the ability to make changes," says Kennelly. "So knowledge becomes power in that sense."

Researchers are currently seeking ways to influence production to make milk that is lower in fat and higher in protein. One project looks at the diet cows are fed to find the mix of canola oil and linseed oil that will change the type of fat in the milk. This can also affect the way our butter spreads and the length of time the milk can stay in the 'fridge before it sours.

Other projects study the effects of a variety of feeds such as barley and cereal silage as forage. The making of superior cows with molecular biology and molecular genetics is also being investigated.

But refining the components of milk and enhancing production efficiency can't come at the expense of taste. So far, says Kennelly, "Taste panelists have been positive."



Dean Ian Morrison at the opening of the new Dairy Research and Technology Centre

Future possibilities include nutraceuticals—milk as medicine. Kennelly says it's even theoretically possible to produce milk for people who are lactose intolerant. Monday's opening was a milestone in

dairy research at the U of A, appropriately marked with the well-timed birth of a male Holstein calf dubbed "The Big B" by media. "It was a very appropriate symbol at that time," says Kennelly. ■

U of A hosts forum for hot VLT debate

By Lee Elliott

"A loonie's a loonie's a loonie." That's Premier Klein's response to calls to remove the nearly half a billion dollars in gambling revenue added to government coffers each year.

Electronic gambling is a hot issue. And it's one the Faculty of Extension is willing to tackle, armed with the best current research, informed speakers and a sizzling "crossfire" session for the first ever conference on video lottery terminals (VLTs) and electronic gaming February 18 to 20.

Dr. Edd LeSage, the faculty's director of government studies, says lining up participants proved challenging at times. A representative from the Edmonton Hotel Association cancelled out and the mayor of a municipal region dropped out at the advice of lawyers. The district is undergoing a court challenge following a plebiscite where voters asked to ban VLTs.

In addition, "The premier has definitely entered the fray in a way that is different than he ever has before," says LeSage. All this makes for an interesting conference, he says—one a university is uniquely suited to host.

"It's a challenge for a university that wants to become publicly responsible," says LeSage. "The public loses when dis-

cussion becomes polarized and factionalized," and the university can play a responsible role when most other parties have self-interest. "We're the keepers of moral sciences and social sciences . . . and even mathematical sciences if you're talking about the mathematics of games of chance."

The issues include philosophical and ethical questions as well as hard economic ones. "Gambling is a matter that can promise a certain amount of economic gain if it is controlled and well managed," says LeSage.

Representatives from the casinos' association, municipal, provincial and federal governments, business and churches will speak at the conference. MLA Judy Gordon, chair of Community Lottery Boards will explain exactly how lottery funds are currently distributed.

U of A Professor Emeritus Dr. Garry Smith will be conference moderator and Dr. Bill Eadington, director of University of Nevada's gambling and gaming institute, will be the keynote speaker.

LeSage hopes the conference will be just a beginning. A proposed Canadian Centre for Gambling Studies has already been approved by the Faculty of Extension's faculty council and he hopes it will soon become a reality.

In the meantime, conference registrations are pouring in. "This is meant to be a catalyst for balanced and informed discussion of all the issues surrounding VLTs and electronic gambling," says LeSage. "We [the Faculty of Extension] want to exist in the broad liberal tradition of the academy." ■

- The province brought \$430 million in gambling revenue in 1996/97
- This revenue represents a 24 fold increase over the past 20 years.
- It's estimated the average Albertan, 18 and older, gambles \$1,344 each year.
- The hospitality industry earns an estimated \$80 million a year in retail commissions from VLTs
- Community groups receive about 20 per cent of all gambling revenue.
- An estimated three to four per cent of VLT players are said to be addicted to gambling.
- Premier Ralph Klein say he'll host his own VLT "summit" in late March.

»» quick »» facts

Panamanian toddler

Continued from page 1

non-profit association that helps people with developmental disabilities. The AACL was contacted in the fall by a similar organization in Panama looking for help for the toddler. Because of the AACL's help in the past with another Panamanian child with Down's Syndrome, and because of the urgency of Jose's situation, the association took up his cause.

Bruce Uditsky, executive director, says this is not something the organization does on a regular basis but there was no time to hesitate in Jose's case. As a result, Jose Moran arrived from Panama February 1. His parents, Ricaurte Robles and Sadia

Moran, brother and grandparents accompanied him thanks to travel costs donated by an airline and a local travel company. They are staying at Ronald McDonald House for the duration of Jose's operation and recovery.

Jose has a long way to go, but his family is in good spirits. "We have faith and hope in God," says Sadia Moran. "The doctors are just instruments of God, instruments to do good." They are taken aback with the media interest in their son's story but are happy with the warm Canadian reception they have received. They are also pleased with what they say is an incredible

health system. "There is no comparison with what we have in Panama," says Moran. With a smile and loving look at her son, Moran says she can't wait for her son to recover so she can do all the things she's wanted to do with a healthy baby boy.

Bruce Uditsky says the procedure and hospital stay is expected to cost \$100,000 which the AACL has pledged to pay with the help of donations. The family received \$10,000 US from the Panamanian government. So far, Uditsky says more than \$30,000 has been raised. Donations can be made by calling the AACL at 451-3055 or 1-800-252-7556. ■

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...it makes sense

What price education?

Students say they can't pay more, administrators fear they can't do with less

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

From St. John's to Vancouver, they marched and cried—"enough." Thousands of students from universities and colleges protested against rising tuition and crippling student debt.

In Toronto, they flooded the financial core, marched down Bay Street and occupied Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce headquarters. It wasn't long before police moved in. Police also intervened in Vancouver protests.

In Edmonton, about 150 students marched across the High Level Bridge to the Alberta Legislature in a rally led by the Student Organized Resistance Movement, or STORM. They drowned out Advanced Education Minister Clint Dunford's impromptu speech and were reportedly kicked out of the public gallery for shouting slogans.

"We shouldn't have to fight. Education is our right!"

- The U of A has 25 per cent less per student to spend than UBC, 17 per cent less than the University of Toronto and 47 per cent less than U.S. public universities.
- Operating revenue and FTE staff per student have declined more than 30 per cent since 1982/83.
- Basic residence, tuition and other fee costs are the lowest of major Canadian universities.
- At the beginning of the decade, tuition represented 11.8 per cent of the operating budget. The goal is to move it to 30 per cent.
- Basic tuition for the 1997-98 year is \$3056, up from \$1500 in 1991-92.
- National average student loan in 1990 was \$8,700; in 1998, it's \$25,000.

»» quick »» facts

"Fund education, not corporations!"

Protests against higher tuition costs are nothing new, but their sense of urgency is. Statistics Canada says a half billion dollars in student loans are paid out each year. This means one of two students graduate with debt. With youth unemployment hovering at 16 per cent, that debt can be frightening.

At the U of A, tuition and fees for a first year full-time arts student in 1997 was \$3,446. This compares to \$3,329 at the University of Toronto and \$2,561 at UBC. Multiply this over four years and factor in book, housing and food costs and students are looking at an average debt load of \$25,000 upon graduation, according to the Human Resources Development Canada Task Force on Youth.

The picture is a little brighter closer to home. In Alberta, students with Canada-Alberta student loans last year averaged a debt of \$19,017. Almost all four-year degree graduates are eligible for remissions by the Alberta Student Finance Board once accumulated loans hit \$19,200. If remission requirements are met, students face an average net debt of \$16,348.

"I work all day, I work all night. Education is a right!"

One U of A student protester, Marcia Beacham, took a few minutes to add up what she will owe after graduation in two years. "Thirty thousand dollars," she said with a nervous laugh. And that's with waitressing full-time and some help the

first year from her parents. Ayal Dinner, a member of STORM, says he knows students with debts of \$40,000 to \$45,000.

Still, tuition hikes continue. This year, U of A administration says it needs the maximum allowable tuition increase, 8.92 per cent, or an additional \$233 per student, to operate. The Students' Union, however, is calling for a lesser five per cent increase.

At the request of the Board of Governors, faculties are preparing two budgets—one showing the maximum increase, the second five per cent. The board will review the budgets and decide the issue February 13.

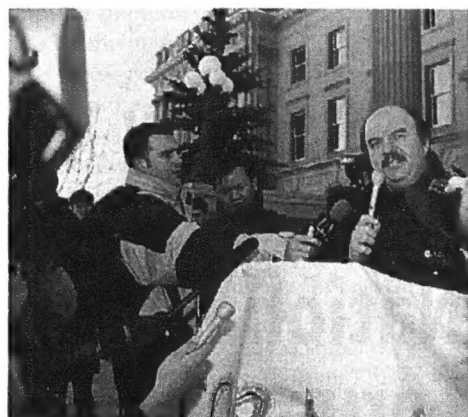
Dr. Doug O'ram, vice-president academic, says while the process is still in negotiation, a lower percentage increase means cuts, and everybody knows what that means: fewer faculty, sessionals, and teaching assistants.

"One cut, two cuts, three cuts, four! Budget cuts have made me poor!"

But while a five per cent increase will mean cuts, the maximum increase may also bring risks. How much is too much before tuition costs affect enrolment and students walk away from U of A?

"Nobody anywhere has done a full study on this, at least not in the last 25 years," says O'ram. "We must be very aware that price may be an issue, but so far, we haven't seen it."

What administrators do know is students are taking advantage of different, less expensive ways to get degrees. Enrolment patterns have changed, says O'ram. Over the last 10 years, numbers of first and second-year students have declined while

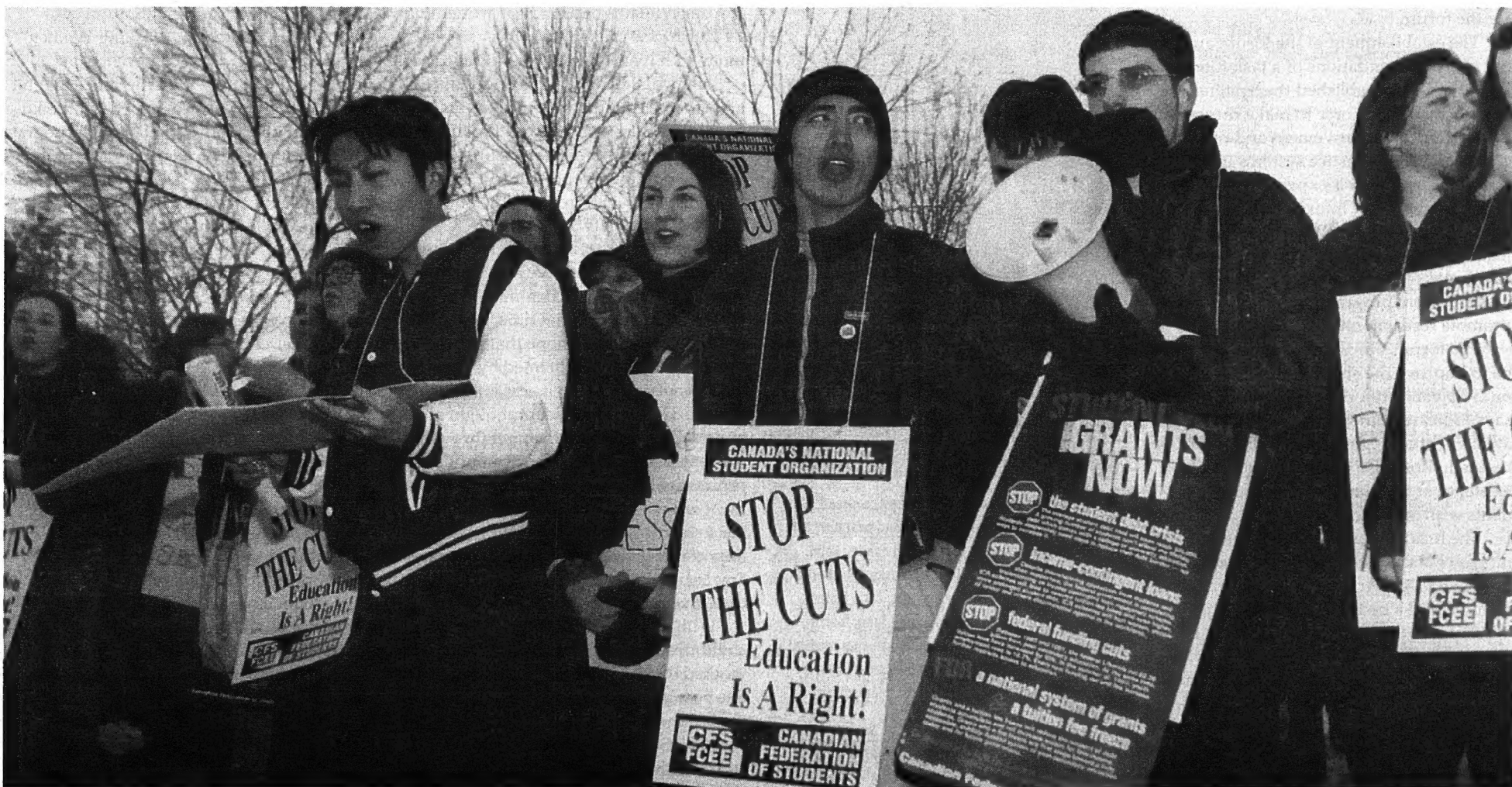


Minister of Advanced Education and Career Development Clint Dunford addresses the rally.

numbers of third and fourth-year students have increased, largely due to transfer agreements with smaller colleges in the province. Distance education programs, such as those at Athabasca University, are becoming more popular. And more private colleges, like Augustana and King's are offering degrees. Mount Royal College in Calgary is rumored to be next. It's a students' market, says O'ram.

While acknowledging the burden students feel with a mounting debt, O'ram says there's more than tuition fees at play. Loans are now more accessible, but well-paying entry-level jobs aren't. Yet, over the long run, statistics show students with degrees come out ahead financially.

"We're still among the cheapest countries in the world [for university education]," says O'ram, who cites the American example. Tuition has been rising steadily for years and Canadian students and families are in what he calls "price shock." People think nothing of taking out a \$75,000 mortgage for a home, but a loan perhaps half that size for an investment in education is difficult to digest for many Canadians, he says. ■



Universities of Chile and Alberta seal a trans-hemispheric deal

Cooperation between two similar-sized institutions expected to get much closer

By Michael Robb

Both universities have about the same number of students. They both have large professional faculties—some of them highly regarded in their respective countries. Both are situated in resource-based economies. And both are anxious to expand their international connections.

In short, the agreement signed recently between the University of Chile and the University of Alberta is a deal officials at both

universities say will benefit students and staff at both institutions. "This is going to make a real difference in our educational programs and the options to study abroad that will be available to our students," says Ted Chambers, director for the Centre of International Business Studies.

President Rod Fraser, who accompanied the Team Canada trade mission to Latin America earlier this month, says in

the beginning the agreement will likely involve five different faculties. The Business Faculty is already working with its counterpart at the Chilean university. A joint conference on resource taxation issues was held in Santiago earlier in January. Several U of A professors in the Faculty of Business and Department of Economics presented papers. NOVA Corporation, a key player in the Chilean economy, is pro-

viding \$56,000 to both universities for the study of the GasAndes Pipeline Project.

Professors in the Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Home Economics are collaborating with their Chilean counterparts to explore programs in the area of wood products and the use of fibre in wood. Medical professors at the Chilean university are anxious to learn more about the U of A's Telehealth initiatives.

One U of A business student is currently studying at the University of Chile and a few Chilean students are expected to attend the U of A during the next academic year. Officials in the Faculty of Business expect that those numbers will grow.

The U of A's acting director of International Relations Rae McDonald says one area the university is investigating is the establishment of short programs for U of A students to study Spanish at the University of Chile.

In related news, the university's civil engineering department has struck an agreement with the University of Uberaba, a university near the city of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Professors and students at both universities are collaborating on the commercialization of oriented strand board, a composite wood product technology developed in Alberta. The Brazilians are hopeful it can be used in their housing market. It's expected the Brazilian staff and students will take related courses at the U of A, and U of A staff will travel to Brazil to teach. ■

U of A new home of National Forum on Civil Justice

Students will benefit from forum's work, says Law professor June Ross

By Michael Robb

Confusing. Time-consuming. Expensive. Inaccessible.

That's what citizens, lawyers, and people in the judiciary and government have been saying about Canada's civil justice system. The University of Alberta, with assistance from the Canadian Bar Association and several other legal organizations, is tackling these problems.

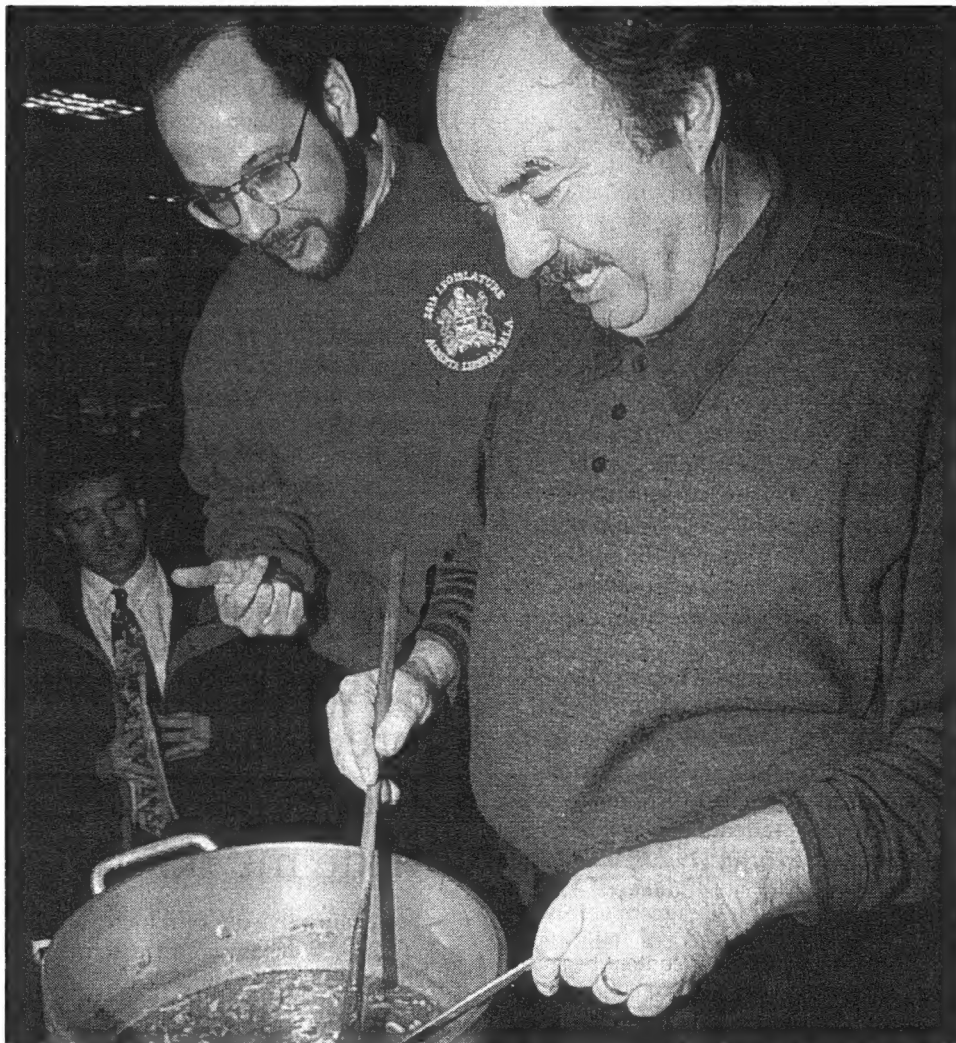
Earlier this week, the two organizations announced the creation of the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice. That organization, says CBA president André Gervais, will help modernize the legal system and make it more relevant to Canadians.

Other universities were in the running for the Forum. Dean of Law Lewis Klar said earlier this week the faculty has the resources to carry out the Forum's work. "Our relationship with existing institutes, the strength of the U of A's information resources, services and technology and our modern facilities will provide an ideal host for the forum."

The establishment of the forum arose out of recommendations of a task force. In 1995, the CBA established the Systems of Civil Justice Task Force to make recommendations for the improvement and modernization of the civil justice systems in Canada. The forum is expected to be a kind of clearinghouse of information. It will collect and disseminate information on civil justice reform across the country, foster exchanges of information, develop civil justice reform programs, and conduct and promote research on civil justice reform.

The forum's most immediate task will be to improve the sharing of information on civil justice reform across the country, says Professor June Ross, an expert in the area. Eventually, the forum will conduct research. Ross also expects the forum's existence at the U of A will encourage students with an interest in the area to enrol.

The forum, expected to be up and running by March, will begin with a budget of about \$100,000. An executive director will be hired and a board of directors will be appointed. Major sponsors include: Justice Canada, DuPont Canada, the Association of Canadian Court Administrators, the Law Foundation of British Columbia, the CBA Law for the Future Fund and the provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories. ■



Practically Perfect Pasta

Clint Dunford, advanced education minister, cooks up a pot of macaroni to help raise awareness of student debt while MLA Howard Sapers looks on.

Honors student attacks poverty

Lou Hyndman Award came at "crucial" time—Mimi Williams

By Michael Robb



Mimi Williams

Other 1997/98 Lou Hyndman Edmonton Glenora Award recipients are: Ricki Johnston, second-year law, and Samara Jones, third-year history.

The 1997/98 recipients of the Peter Lougheed Scholarships are: Caroline Cox, second-year law; Diana Davidson, fourth-year English honors; Colin Feasby, third-year law; Nicole Letawsky, fourth-year business; Da Li, fourth-year business; Carlo Panaro, third-year biological sciences; Lynne Tang, fourth-year business; Michelle Tubman, fourth-year medical laboratory science; Marika Warren, third-year philosophy; and David Watt, fourth-year English honors.

» quick » facts

Mimi Williams doesn't beat around the bush. She calls it poverty. A single mom with two children, tens of thousands of dollars in debt and still a few years to go before she graduates. But—and it's a big but—she loves learning. "I'm the better for it; I really appreciate being here," says the political science student, the youngest of six children and the only one to attend university.

When she opened the letter informing her that she would receive an \$8,000 Lou Hyndman Edmonton Glenora Award, she cried. It came at a crucial time. And, importantly, it gave her hope that she would make it. "I was overwhelmed by the kindness," she says.

The 35-year-old student thought about key people who helped her get through the first couple of years, and about the professors in the political science department who made it easier for students like her to learn. Williams says that has been important—because there really aren't any "cardboard cutout" students at the U of A. Everyone is different.

Williams began to realize she, too, could do something worthwhile when she worked for the provincial government. She began to realize she was just as intelligent as those who were making the decisions. She took a few courses as an unclassified student. She was active in the Al-

berta Union of Provincial Employees, worked for Edmonton Working Women, organizing last year's conference on women in poverty—an experience that hit close to home. She also helped get the Edmonton Public and Catholic lunch program off and running. On campus, she got involved with the New Democrats, assisted with the Diapers on Campus child care campaign and helped as a note taker for Services for Students with Disabilities.

The self-described "imp" says she never quite trusted that what she was doing was good enough. But it was. And it earned her one of the U of A's top scholarships. She's quick to lay credit at the feet of influential friends and many of the female political science professors.

Last year, she weighed in on the student support debate with a column in the student newspaper. Williams pointed out that it seemed to her that the students receiving the prestigious awards usually didn't need the money.

For Williams, the issue is need. "We have to focus on students in need, not just on the best and the brightest. How many John Ralston Sauls are out there right now? There's a heck of a lot of wasted talent out there," says Williams, who will likely put her talents to work in the non-profit sector, a place where she believes she can fit in—a place where she can make a difference. ■

WHAT THE AGREEMENT MEANS

- Exchange of faculty and staff
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- Joint research activities and publications
- Participation in seminars and academic meetings
- Exchange of academic materials and information
- Special short-term academic programs

» quick » facts

Level playing field needed for banks to compete globally

Dr. Mark R. Huson
Professor, business

I was looking at an old textbook, one written in 1993, at a section on banking in the 21st century. It mentions that, "on the horizon there is home banking, where you can transact via a personal computer or your telephone." Well, we have met that future and it is now.

Technology has not been the only change facing Canada's banks. We are moving toward universal banks where you can purchase mutual funds, insurance, and pay your mortgage all at the same place. Merger waves in the U.S. and Europe are creating larger banks and NAFTA is changing the face of competition. Foreign banks can now establish Canadian operations that take deposits coast to coast. But they still do not enjoy the same privileges as Canadian banks.

In light of these changes, is the merger of the Royal Bank and the Bank of Montreal good for Canada? Some point to the jobs that will surely be lost, others say the new bank will be too big and have too much market power.

I believe the merger is good for Canadian banking provided we use the opportunity to increase competition.

First, let me handle the job loss issue: Although Royal Bank and the Bank of Montreal are not talking a lot about layoffs, there is no guarantee that wouldn't happen anyway even without a merger. In 1996, Royal Bank, Bank of Montreal and Toronto Dominion created an independent company to handle cheque processing. Before that each bank had its own processing staff. Services were consolidated with-

out a merger...and this will surely continue in the future.

Next, the bigness argument.

This might be a good argument if we take a narrow view of what banking is. We should allow financial institutions like insurance companies and trusts to compete on a more equal footing with banks. Imagine your insurance company offering you a savings account and having its own banking machines. Allowing this kind of competition would limit the ability of banks to increase their fees for simple cash withdrawals and other transactions.

A more important source of competition comes from foreign financial institutions. Wells Fargo, a U.S. bank, is already providing small business loans to Canadians over the World Wide Web. U.S. credit

card companies are also making inroads. This competitive pressure will temper any impulse to increase lending rates or service fees by the merged bank.

I think government regulators should allow foreign institutions greater access to Canadian financial markets. This would provide even stronger competition. In this day of global financial services, Canadians should be allowed to choose any bank in the world.

If one of the arguments for creating even larger domestic banks is to allow them to compete globally, I think they should be globally competitive. This means making them face their competitors on the home court... and on a level playing field.

CBC Radio "Commentary" aired January 25 on Edmonton A.M. ■

folio letters to the editor

Gateway editor disputes Folio report

I would like to correct some of the inaccuracies printed in your recent cover story on the *Gateway* (*Gateway* shrinks as U of A advertisers pull out, January 23). In the first paragraph Lucianna Ciccocioppo incorrectly paraphrased my remarks. She states that I "confirmed the newspaper lost the HUB Mall and Bookstores contracts because of offensive content." This creates the impression that the paper as a whole is offensive, when in fact HUB and the Bookstore were offended only by negative comments about their operations.

We lost the Bookstore contract only after we printed a negative comment about the long lineups on September 2. HUB mall pulled out after we published a comic strip on November 20 stating that HUB food was greasy and expensive. These decisions can not be attributed to the "of-

fensiveness" of our other content because our editorial position has not changed significantly since the summer, when both HUB and the Bookstore were dedicated advertisers.

While withdrawing financial support is certainly their prerogative, the disapproval of two disgruntled advertisers should not be mistaken for a mass exodus of advertising dollars. The *Gateway* "has fewer pages this year" because we didn't have an advertising representative until the end of October. As a result, we lost a lot of revenue during the peak months of our publishing year. The recent turnover in the advertising department has also made it difficult for us to cultivate a stable client base. I would like to point out, however, that the *Gateway* is now earning as much advertising revenue as it did at this

time last year.

Finally, the notion that our content is too offensive to attract advertising is ludicrous. We put a lot of work into making the *Gateway* one of the best student papers in Canada. The News department has set up partnerships with CaPS, Student Help, Student Legal Services, and Peer Health Educators to provide students with valuable advice columns. Our Opinion section is widely recognized as a lively source of campus debate. The Local Spotlight column in our Entertainment section features underground talent that other media sources ignore, our Sports department is running profiles of the University athletes; our stellar photography department provides a captivating glimpse of campus life.

The quality of our content has received local and national attention. Out of the

thousands of words, ideas, and images we print in every issue of the *Gateway*, less than one-hundredth of one percent can be considered "offensive." It is an insult to all students to suggest that the language we use and the issues that are important to us do not deserve financial support. I found it extremely ironic that, on page 2 of the same issue of *Folio*, you praised Joe Clark for his work to "protect student newspapers from the threats, pressures, and censorship by university administration and faculty" while he was the editor-in-chief of the *Gateway*. Is it necessary that I become Prime Minister of Canada before you to treat my editorial policy with the same respect?

Rose Yewchuk
Editor-in-chief, the *Gateway*

U of A alumna takes convocation to Hong Kong

Pomp and circumstance head east for hundreds who've missed it

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

Cecilia Lam never stops thinking about her alma mater and she doesn't want anyone else in Hong Kong to either.

Taking a few minutes out of her busy schedule while in Edmonton (she's here to help set her son up for high school), Lam, Class of '76 rehabilitation medicine, dives into a conversation about her latest effort involving the U of A: the Hong Kong Convocation on March 22.

It was an idea born out of trying to keep the ties among Hong Kong's 1,100 U of A alumni. "In previous years, we were all scattered around and no one wanted to be president [of the alumni chapter]," says Lam. But now, both interest and activity in the chapter are on the rise, thanks to Presi-

dent Rod Fraser's visits to Hong Kong, she says.

After organizing several alumni dinners for the U of A president and the dean of science, Lam came up with an idea to hold a convocation ceremony to draw more alumni together. "I wanted something big enough, important and worthwhile for people to attend. I want more people to join our alumni association and make contributions to the U of A."

She was pleasantly surprised with the president's enthusiastic response. So, she rolled up her sleeves and got to work. Lam is an advisor to the organizing committees in Hong Kong because "I felt the younger members should take over and contribute."

With invitations sent out last week, Lam is eager to see the response.

This isn't the only volunteer project she's involved with. On her frequent visits to mainland China, the hospital chief executive for the Rehabaid Centre ensures she brings published materials and used rehabilitation equipment for use in smaller, poorer villages.

It's one small step in trying to help people, especially children, get out of a backward system, she says.

But the children are more interested in what Lam carries in her suitcase: toys. Lam drops them off at orphanages outside of Shanghai and Guang Zhou.

"I think it's really a drop in the ocean,

but if nobody starts, you'll never see any improvement. [I've] made some people happy to see me, and that's very meaningful." ■

- Hong Kong is the site of the U of A's first international convocation
- All Hong Kong alumni are invited to participate
- Six students from the Class '98 will attend the March 22 ceremony
- Two hundred and fifty people are expected at the dinner; 600 at the ceremony
- The Hong Kong alumni branch is the largest overseas association for the U of A

»» quick »» facts

Finding the comfort zone

No more pill popping when pillows will do

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

Dr. Janice Morse remembers trying to make her patients in the U.S. more comfortable, especially those who were unconscious. She noticed they all had one pillow so she asked where the pillow cupboard was. She got a blank stare.

"I was astonished. Here this hospital had \$500,000 equipment but no extra pillows." What the patients received instead were sleeping pills. It was an experience that focused her research in this little-studied area of patient comfort.

- Dr. Janice Morse is the recipient of the \$10,000 1997 Baxter Foundation Episteme Award which acknowledges a major break-through in nursing knowledge. The award is given by the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.
- Dr. Morse is the director of the U of A's International Institute for Qualitative Methodology.

»» quick »» facts

"Providing comfort has always been important to the nursing profession," says Morse "but the 1980s saw caring as the predominant paradigm." The focus was on the nurse and how caring she or he was. But now there's a shift to comfort, says Morse, the outcome of a nurse's action.

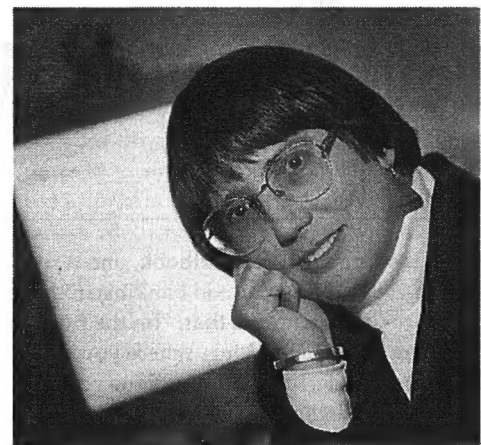
In her research, Morse has explored what emergency room nurses do to provide comfort to help trauma patients endure agonizing pain. She's identified and developed a new concept called 'compathy,' or physical empathy, which explains the nurses' ability to understand what the patient is feeling. An example of compathy is a husband's ability to experience his wife's labor pains. Morse found compathy motivates nurses to assist in a given situation. It initiates caregiver actions and encourages the process of providing more complete and adequate care.

"In the emergency room, I realized that comforting is particular to the patient's state. If the wrong strategy is given, the

patient's condition can escalate," says Morse. In a trauma room, the nurse's role is to help the patient endure pain while doctors are working to stabilize the patient.

Morse found nurses established relationships with the patient. A nurse will hold the patient's hand, fix a gaze, crouch down to be close to the head and use a soft but high-pitched intonation to soothe the patient. "It resembles baby talk," says Morse. In fact, patients have told Morse it is the only thing they hear.

"Caregivers can share the pain experience of patients without feeling the pain to provide better care." There is a risk, however, of nurses having too great a compathetic response, says Morse. If a nurse is new and feels overwhelmed by what is happening to the patient, the nurse can freeze and be unable to help the patient. But with experience, Morse says caregivers can learn to selectively use and block compathetic responses.



Dr. Janice Morse

Morse's study has identified this phenomenon for the first time and she hopes it will help nurses provide more appropriate care to traumatized patients. "I hope it will have an impact on nursing education ... and become more of a generalized practice," she says. ■

Hate hits the 'Net

International Week speaker highlights sites you'd least like your child to visit

By Lee Elliott

"Enjoy yourself and have a white day." For the Ku Klux Klan, Delaware chapter, this "pun" passes for a welcome. And with the explosion of the Internet, they and groups like them are able to send such messages, and much, much worse, to unprecedented numbers of people.

According to John Anchan, an educational policy studies graduate student, one site boasts 4,000 visitors a day. Another brags of "mirrored" sites across the world so if one jurisdiction shuts them down, they merely switch locations. This is how self-described "militant pacifist," Ernst Zundel skirts Canadian laws. His site originates in California and is mirrored in Germany and around the world.

Anchan has spent more than 1,800 hours visiting over 2,000 hate sites as a part of the research for his doctoral dissertation. They're predominantly white supremacist, but black and Asian anti-white sites also exist. Sadly, most human rights arguments that show up in the chat

lines consist of flame mail echoing the violent sentiments of the racists.

Some sites contain warnings such as "This page is not for the racially weak at heart" and lengthy text diatribes that conclude with variations of: "It's a simple reality that to be born white is an honor and a privilege."

"Some of this is easily understandable to young children," says Anchan. "It has an aura of legitimacy." Some sites are even designed to be found inadvertently—easy enough for a child researching Black History Month. The Afro-American Pride Page turns out to be a series of insults to the race.

Hate texts include "medical proof" that Tiger Woods could not have risen to stardom if whites really had been trying. This aura of legitimacy surrounding such text pales in comparison to the more violent material.

"Some of the stuff, I have to restrain my vocabulary," says Anchan. At his lec-

ture during International Week, Anchan showed a downloaded photo of the body of a bleeding and battered black man surrounded by the legs and boots of his assailants. The caption is "black and white and red all over." A cartoon depicts a young black man with a gun in his mouth. Anchan describes one site where photos of Asian women being raped and beaten are offered for a photo caption contest.

"There are interactive games that sustain and nurture hate," says Anchan. There's even a version of the home-shopping network that sells white power belt buckles, flags and bumper stickers. "Some of the stuff they do is just [technically] amazing... it could be used for such positive purposes."

Anchan has found the organizations hosting these sites have three things in common: They're fighting for their race; they're linked to religion; and they have charitable status and offer tax receipts.

"If you have religion, no one can touch

you," he says. "They've got very powerful arguments, not accurate, but very powerful. They're almost convincing to kids."

Hate sites also overwhelmingly outnumber anti-hate sites. If there's any good news, it's that hate sites are hard to get into. Pornographic sites are easy to find. Children just type s-e-x. For hate sites, though, they generally need to type the name of the organization: KKK or Stormfront, for example. "Once you're there, though, hate is easier. With a sex site you have to have a credit card," says Anchan. ■

WEBSITES THAT FIGHT RACISM

- Artists Against Racism <http://aar.vrx.net/details.html>
- Nizkor: a Holocaust Remembrance <http://www.nizkor.netizen.org/index.html>
- Simon Wiesenthal Centre <http://www.wiesenthal.org/>

»» quick »» facts

Student gets VIP look at Kennedy Space Centre

By Michael Robb

Joanne Martineau won't be seeing the JF Kennedy Space Centre from the window of a tour bus. Instead, the 30-year-old U of A chemical engineering student is getting the VIP treatment at the Florida National Aeronautics and Space Administration facility.

Agency officials asked her what she wanted to see. The student didn't hesitate: she'll get a close look at the control room, life support systems, the fuel system, a flight simulator and the building where the shuttle is assembled. And, of course, she's invited to have lunch with NASA officials.

Martineau is one of only four native North American students this year who is receiving the AT Anderson Memorial Scholarship* and with it an invitation to tour the facility. Not bad for a kid from Wainwright, Alberta, who used to work at a restaurant for six dollars an hour.

Martineau has come a long way since her restaurant job days. She remembers a pivotal moment in her life when she realized she could aspire to something better. It was early one morning, about 2 a.m. Cleaning a deep fryer, she remembers thinking



Joanne Martineau

there had to be something better. Not long after that, she enrolled at Lakeland College. After a year at the college, she moved to Edmonton where she enrolled at the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology.

With a host of business courses under her belt, she applied and was accepted to study at the U of A's business school. Her academic direction changed, however, after she took a few engineering options. "That sparked my interest in engineering," says Martineau, who will graduate with a

BSc in chemical engineering this year.

Along the way, Martineau also felt an obligation to help others change their lives. A couple of years ago, she saw an advertisement for student ambassadors who would agree to talk to aboriginal students about post-secondary education. She travelled to reserves, explaining the options and how her own education had made a profound difference in her life. Last year, she took those views to a national audience of over 1,200 aboriginal students, to the National Aboriginal Careers Symposium in Ottawa.

"I wanted to say to so many people, 'hang in there,'" she explains.

Martineau is glad she "hung in there." A couple of years ago, she was out of money and gluing her boots together. She had to do something. Determined to stick it out, she sat down and started applying for every scholarship she was eligible for. She was amazed to find that there were so many. And then she started receiving good-news letters. Last year, she received \$9,000 worth of scholarships; this year, \$20,000.

"I'm happy I stuck it out, even though it kind of stunk sometimes," says Martineau, who's proud of her Iroquoian, Plains Cree and French ancestry.

She's also proud of her father, a man who worked hard all his life as a fire-fighter on the military base in Wainwright. "He only had Grade 5, went to fire fighting school and worked two jobs while we were growing up. We never had much money, but we had a stable family." Every year, part of the family's summer was spent with friends and relatives in Cold Lake, hunting, fishing and living close to the land.

Martineau plans to marry her respect for the land and her learned technical expertise wherever she works. Where? That's the next question she'll have to answer. She's received seven job offers—Husky, Shell, NOVA Corp, Suncor, Syncrude, Amoco and Imperial Oil all want the young woman on their payrolls. ■

*The \$1,000 AT Anderson Memorial Scholarship, funded by NASA, is awarded by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society.

The "golden" age of discovery

Man who discovered massive golden eagle migration shares his wonder of the majestic bird with U of A students

By Michael Robb

What else are we missing? That's a question Peter Sherrington has good reason to ask those who would want more development in the Bow Valley. Perhaps, we are about to disrupt natural phenomena we haven't even detected yet. After all, it wasn't until 1992 that Sherrington discovered the massive migration of 6,000 or more golden eagles down the front ranges of the Rocky Mountains.

Prior to 1992, no one had even detected a pattern. There was the odd sighting of about 50 golden eagles over Utah or Montana. On one day, there was a report of 250 of the massive birds. But on March 20, 1992, at about 11:30 in the morning, Sherrington looked skyward. In the foreground of his binoculars was a pine grosbeak—a bird he was there primarily to study. But in the background was a golden eagle, high above the Kananaskis Valley near Mount Lorette.

By the time that momentous day was over, Sherrington and a friend had counted 102 golden eagles. "My first thought was that this was not a random event," he explained to students earlier this week, at a talk sponsored by the TransAlta Environmental Research and Studies Centre. A few days after the initial sighting, Sherrington, a consummate field biologist and vice-president of the Alberta Wilderness Association, was witness to another 250 golden eagles passing overhead in a single day. A year later, one day in March, Sherrington counted 849 golden eagles overhead.

"The most valuable biological studies are those that go on for a long time," said Sherrington, who has now enlisted many others in what he describes as "a work in progress."

Sherrington's work, said natural resource professor Dr. Jim Butler, "reminds us about how little we've known about our wild environments. It's an exciting detective story...and he [Sherrington] is the model of a good field biologist."

Sherrington said that after six years of studying this extraordinary phenomenon, we are now in a position to ask intelligent questions. "Since 1992, we've spent 850 days in the field, and the time we've spent has increased every year," he said, pointing out that much of that field work is conducted during the peak times of migration, March and April and September and October. The younger birds are now known to go as far south as Mexico. The bulk of them winter in the Wyoming Basin. In the summer, the birds travel as far as the Yukon and Alaska.

The golden eagle migration set the ornithological world abuzz. This is a creature that is a part of our collective psyche, pure metaphor—that stands for a lot more than just four and a half kilograms of flesh and feathers, says Sherrington. ...a powerful symbol of the Roman Empire, a potent Christian symbol, an elegant hunter with three times the visual acuity of a human being and capable of reaching speeds of over 100 kilometres an hour. At the same time, it has long been persecuted, shot by ranchers who claimed it preyed on small calves. In the east, it is only now recovering after several centuries of persecution.

The town of Canmore now has an eagle festival. There is tremendous ecotourism potential, says Sherrington. Hundreds of people now travel to the area to witness an event we've known about for only five years. ■

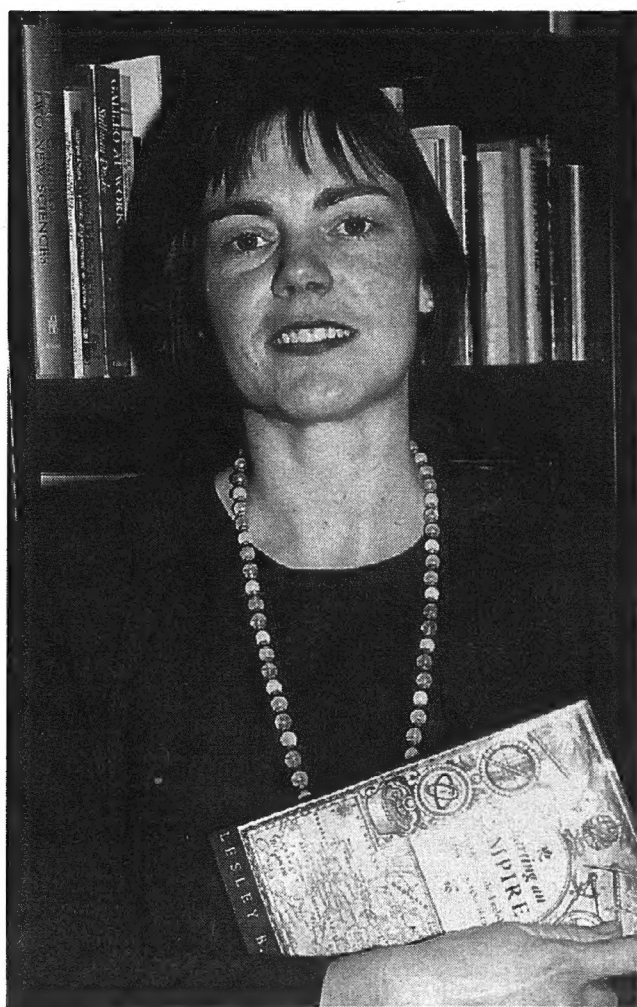


The golden eagle

From Geography 101 to building an empire

U of A science historian traces the concept of English Empire to the geography classes of Oxford and Cambridge

By Michael Robb



Dr. Lesley Cormack, a historian of science, investigating the roots of the idea of empire

You don't just wake up one morning and decide to create an empire with the help of your friends—especially if you live on a tiny island off Europe that has been on the periphery of world affairs for more than a century.

A University of Alberta historian of science, however, has discovered one very influential factor that helped England's religious, business and political leaders believe the tiny island nation could one day create an empire that would rival the world's other rich and powerful nations. It turns out, the country's soon-to-be governing classes were busy studying geography between 1580 and 1620 in the country's only two universities, Oxford and Cambridge.

That had enormous consequences, says Dr. Lesley Cormack. Lon-

don merchants who went on to plot the global ambitions of the East India Company had once sat together in Oxford and Cambridge poring over maps. Naturally enough, they, along with their classmates who found work in the civil service, clergy, government and business, had been schooled to share a set of beliefs.

One thing led to another.

The discipline became an integral part of the arts curriculum. The subject began to focus on the earth and people. Specializations developed. Geographical knowledge exploded. The earth was measured, named and, later, claimed. According to Cormack, more students—who would later become empire builders—began to study the subject.

"It supplied a vision of themselves, of England, and of the wider world that supported a new imperial identity," Cormack explains in her recently published book, *Charting an Empire: Geography at the English Universities, 1580-1620*, published by the University of Chicago Press. "While that identity was not universally acknowledged or supported, the very existence of a discourse of superiority and exploitation, combined with new ways of analyzing and interpreting the events and structures of the world beyond their island, helped prepare these men for the creation and expansion of an empire."

Cormack came to these conclusions

after an exhaustive study of the universities' curriculum, booklists, and by determining the geography books owned by students, fellows and libraries of selected colleges of the day. And she looked at the books that these students left when they died. In effect, she began to uncover just how extensive the knowledge of geography was among the country's movers and shakers.

Cormack's findings also have implications for the history of science. She has never been satisfied with the traditional historical view that universities then were backward and didn't help to create the scientific revolution, and that before the puritans took over the universities in 1640, there was no serious scientific study going on. "The impetus for the huge changes in science in the 17th century was a consequence of applying scientific knowledge to the growing power of the state—obvious in the applied mathematics, including geography. Specific kinds of mathematics were promoted because that's what the monarch would pay for."

That has a modern-day ring to it. "There tends to be this belief that science used to be pure. In the 17th century, by and large, people were not just doing anything they liked. They had to worry about where their money was coming from. Most of the active scientists were in patronage appointments." ■

I'm no Pocahontas

Native Student Services program coordinator shares the lessons of her life with students

By Merle Martin

"I'm no Pocahontas," said Brenda Mary Alice Jones speaking at International Week January 23.

She showed the two-minute introduction to the Disney film to illustrate. "Pocahontas never wears shoes—and anyone showing that much skin in the bush would be eaten alive by the bugs!" Jones said her four-year-old nephew wants to be a white man when he grows up because he learned—from this movie—that Indians are more savage than whites.

Breaking such myths has been a life's work for Jones. She works as Transition Year Program Coordinator in the U of A's Office of Native Student Services. She is also a teacher, an art historian and an artist with U of A bachelor's and master's degrees.

Jones expresses the lessons of her life with wood. "I call my sculptures my totems, but they are not totems." Instead, they represent a rough haul to where she is today. "I am a displaced person—an Ojibway living amongst Crees. I am a woman, a native, an artist. I try to open doors for young native women on campus because no one opened them for me. I am trying to give back to them what my elders gave to me."

"I was sent to the hospital for all kinds of tests for two weeks when I was little," she said. "They wanted to find out why I didn't speak and thought I must be mentally retarded. They found out I could read and write and do mathematics and so sent me home again. No one bothered to ask me what was wrong. I was an abused child and the abuser said that if I told anyone, he would kill my parents."

"I am a recovering alcoholic," she adds. "I drank to fit in and to get away from not fitting in. In my undergraduate year I tried to fit in with a group of undergraduate engineers. We partied and drank a lot. It was not until the man I really cared about called me 'Pocahontas' that it dawned on me that this is not where I want to be."

Jones is the great granddaughter of Chief Shingkwakonce and her teachings are from the Midea Wiwin Lodge. But despite support from family and friends

she almost dropped out of her masters program. She had lost eight members of her family and found it difficult to go on. However, her mother became angry and said, "If you give up, I give up! I give up my dream that I can say my daughter Brenda has a master's degree. You have the opportunity to influence those around you and if you give up, others who follow you will give up too. You will make it easy for them to give up."

Continuing frustration led Jones to take one of her wooden sculptures—her supervisor's favorite—turn it upside down, attack it with a chain saw and paint it red. Friends were alarmed. But when Peter Hide, her supervisor, saw it, he said "Keep working like that you'll get your degree." That sculpture, "Warrior Woman," expresses her search to find who she was. "I found out who I was—a person who took all the abuse. In this piece I begged for the child I was before I was."

Another of Jones's sculptures, named "Bridges," is permanently installed in the reception area of the Office of Native Student Services on the second floor of the Students' Union Building. "It represents the bridges we cross and the union of our office and academic support," said Jones.

Jones sees approximately 20 students each day in her office. Gwen Villebrun, a fourth-year arts student, says, "I've known Jones for the past two years and she has been an important role model for me. As was mentioned during her presentation, each act that a person makes has significance to everyone around them. The fact

that Jones was able to overcome her personal barriers and accomplish her academic goals has inspired me to pursue graduate school."

Jones's framed master's degree hangs in her office. "It is covered with the fingerprints of students who come into my office

and touch it to connect with their dream of walking across the stage at convocation in their traditional dress to receive their degree. I will never wash the glass; and I look forward to the day when it is so covered with fingerprints that you will not be able to read the writing underneath." ■



Brenda Mary Alice Jones



Brenda Mary Alice Jones' "Ancestral Hug"

Coke is it

Tentative single-source deal with Coca-Cola means dollars for students

By Lucianna Ciccocioppo

Coke is in. Pepsi is on its way out. The U of A has signed a tentative deal with Coca-Cola which will pour more than \$5 million into student bursaries and scholarships over 10 years. In exchange, Coca-Cola gains exclusive supply, vending and advertising rights for its cold beverages on campus.

The partnership was announced after 12 months of negotiations with administration and the Students' Union. An open competition was held with Coke and its competitor, Pepsi.

Student bursaries and scholarships will receive \$4.5 million over the next decade, with \$550,000 earmarked for the SU and student programs. In addition, Coke will donate \$100,000 for scholarships and bursaries at the U of A.

Doug Dawson, associate director support services for Housing and Food Services, says this is the largest deal of its kind in Canada. "The benefits flow to students. And what's unique about the deal is that the Students' Union was at the table with us from the beginning." Dawson says students don't have to worry about a price

increase for Coke on campus because price protection for the next several years is in the contract. Students will still be able to bring the beverage of their choice on campus.

In his presentation at a Students' Council meeting, Bill Smith, general manager of the SU, said Coke already has 70-80 per cent of the campus market. He said while the deal moves Coke's share to 100 per cent, there is a charge for this privilege. A students' petition against the deal presented at the meeting prompted the SU to announce a plebiscite on the matter, which will be held on March 4 and 5. It will affect the funds directed to the SU, but will be non-binding on the deal.

The U of A has been involved in a number of single-source deals for years. But this is the first time the university and on-campus retailers have come together in a deal where 100 per cent of the net proceeds benefit students.

The U of A is the 14th Canadian campus to enter a single-source beverage deal. The Board of Governors will be asked to ratify the deal at its next meeting. ■



Tina Chang

New stop-smoking program reaches the hard-to-reach

Multiple substance abusers finally get help to butt out for good

by Deborah Johnston

"I smoke when I drink; I drink when I smoke."
That's how many multiple substance abusers explain their addiction to alcohol and cigarettes: they can't have one without the other. For substance abusers already struggling to kick one addiction, the dependence on nicotine becomes even worse. Most treatment centers don't begin to address the nicotine addiction, preferring to focus on the alcohol or drug abuse. Actually, says researcher Dr. Brenda Munro, "the cigarettes will probably kill them before the alcohol will."

Munro, associate professor of human ecology and Dr. Maryanne Doherty-Poirier, associate chair of secondary education went to inner city hostels and an addictions treatment centre to interview hard-core smokers. They teamed up with Brenda's husband Gordon Munro of the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission as part of a joint project between AADAC and the U of A. "We didn't know where to start," Brenda recalls. "What did the people need? I mean, we all came from a middle class background."

They started by focusing on inner city men. The researchers learned that a staggering 90 per cent of alcoholic or drug users smoke—compared to 30 per cent in the general population.

"We went through every stop-smoking program in Canada and the U.S. that we could get our hands on," Munro says, and discovered there wasn't one program designed to address the unique needs of these individuals.

"The people who most affected me were the women with children who said that they knew they were taking money away from food for their kids but they felt they needed their cigarettes more."

Brenda Munro

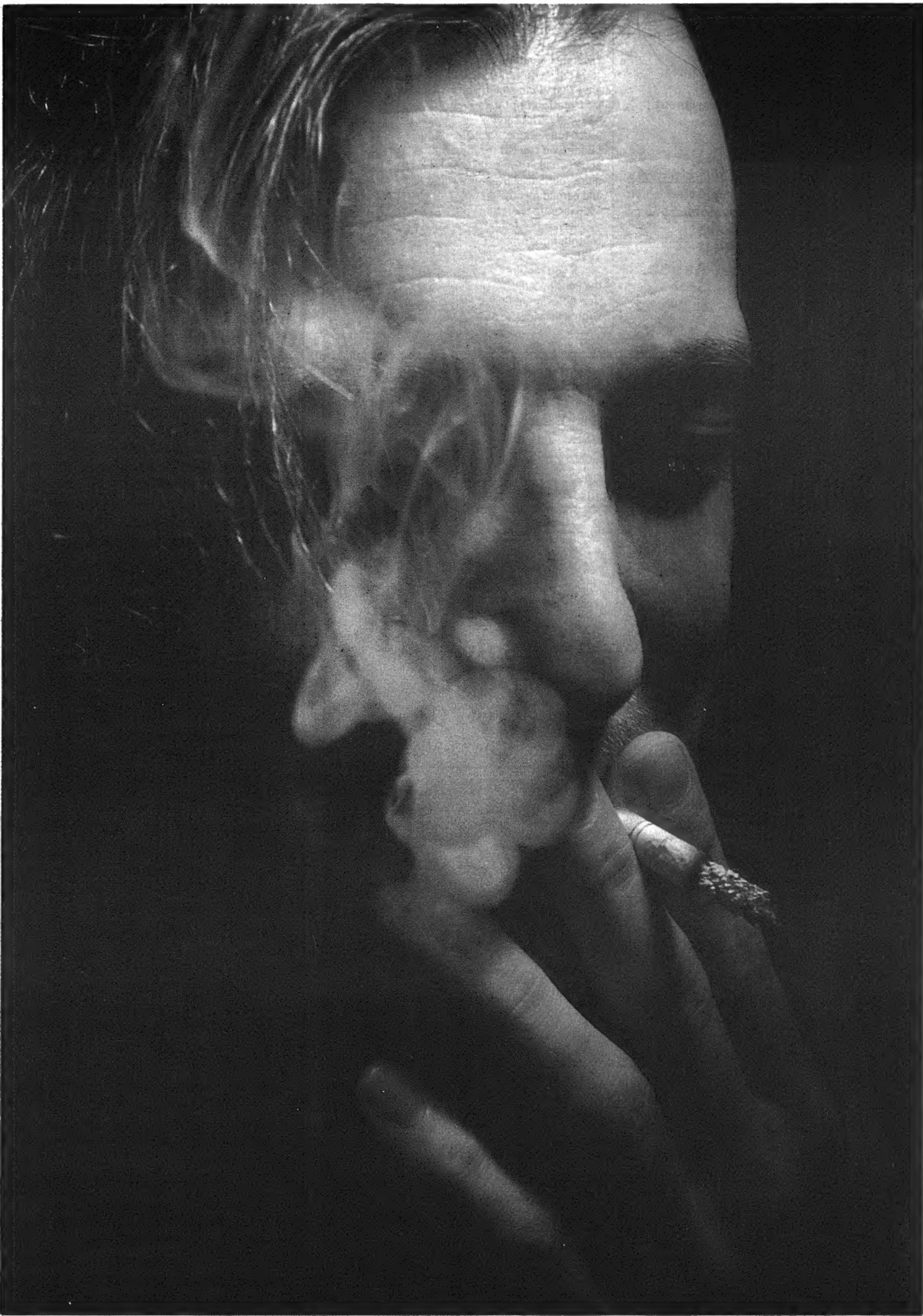
"were the women with children who said that they knew they were taking money away from food for their kids but they felt they needed their cigarettes more."

For the first phase of the program, the researchers focused on inner city men—inpatients at an addictions treatment centre. "We asked them what were their reasons for smoking. A lot of them had escape kinds of reasons—to reduce anger and stress. They have a lot of stresses associated with their drinking behaviors or smoking behaviors."

"Some of the people we're dealing with have found it very hard to rationalize why they should quit," Munro says, "they think they don't have much joy in life, why should they quit?"

Munro stresses that nobody quits smoking without at least thinking about it first. Accordingly, she used Prochaska and DiClemente's Model of Change to design a program to take smokers through pre-contemplation, contemplation, preparation, action, maintenance and sometimes relapse. "You have to get them thinking about stopping smoking before you can get them into programs," Munro says.

To get these individuals actually contemplating quitting, the researchers asked the men to determine a communications vehicle most familiar to the members of



Tina Chang

the hard-to-reach group. "They said they don't read books and they don't read brochures, but they do read the comic section of the newspaper." Based on input from the group, the researchers designed a comic book entitled, "Bob & Henry, Who Stole My Smokes?" It features an unemployed male who struggles every day just to get money for cigarettes.

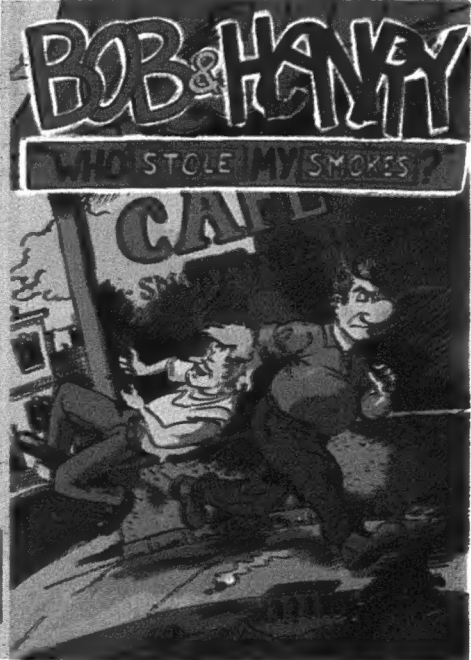
"They get the comic book in advance to get them to contemplate quitting smoking," Munro says. "Once they've done that they can move to the action phase to actually try and stop smoking, because until people start thinking about it, it's kind of useless to put them into a program."

The new program called "Smoking Cessation: Challenging the Hard-to-Reach Multiple Substance Abusing Male is now being piloted through AADAC. (A similar program is being planned for women in this hard-to-reach group). It addresses the

unique needs and lifestyles of individuals in this group and takes them through understanding their smoking patterns, techniques for managing withdrawal symptoms, ways to deal with stress and anger, and preparation for breaking free.

"What we're finding," says Munro, "is the people who change, who actually make it through this program, are those who we actually develop a relationship with. The building of a relationship is very crucial and then working through some of psychological reasons for smoking."

Munro has hopes for expanding the program and has already noticed interest from treatment centers in Ontario and an American publishing company. Realistically, she says, "we're not going to make any money on this," (the eight-week program is offered to clients at no charge) "but I think it's important because it meets a real need." ■





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Revenue Canada's deadline for making RRSP contributions for the 1997 tax year is **March 2, 1998.**

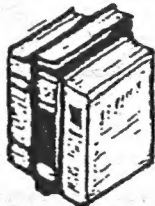
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Skill testing question: *What was the first building constructed on the U of A campus?*

Congratulations to Olga Costopoulos-Almon (English) winner of tickets for two to hear James Parker, piano, with the ESO on February 6, 1998.

Edmonton
Symphony
Orchestra



U of A's technology talent showcased at InfoCity

By Sandra Halme

We should all be so lucky, being a vic-
tim of your own success that is. It happened three years ago when a local computer fair attracted record crowds and caught organizers off guard. This year is a different story and organizers of InfoCity are well prepared for the thousands expected to converge upon the Shaw Conference Centre, Monday and Tuesday, February 16 and 17.

The U of A will have significant presence at InfoCity, showcasing the many innovative and exciting learning technologies utilized on campus. The U of A booth (located just inside the main entrance) consists of a number of interactive displays including the award-winning checkers and chess computer program, virtual reality examples, Telehealth demonstrations, video conferencing set-ups, and a display showing how computers are used for poultry research image analysis in food processing.

In addition to Monday's technology showcase, the U of A will host a number of presentations. Physics professor, Dr. Edo Nyland, will speak on how technology is used in the search for ways to predict earthquakes; Doug Poff, information technology associate director, will discuss how the Web is being used to bring the global library into homes and offices; and sociologist Dr. Graham Lowe will look at how new technologies will affect the future of work.

InfoCity has grown from being a Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS) only event to a current organization comprising more than 50 supporting members. The U of A is in good company with TELUS, Economic Development Edmonton, EPCOR and the Alberta government among those on the membership list. Exhibitors will not be selling anything at their booths, rather, demonstrations on how they are using technology in ways that affect people's lives will be the focus. ■

Elite Junior Achievers visit Faculty of Business

By Chris Floden

The Faculty of Business initiated a Head Start program with a difference January 29.

While head start programs are usually reserved for very young children at risk, the Faculty of Business invited more than 100 high school students who are part of the Elite 200 entrepreneurs in the Junior Achievement program, a non-profit organization that helps students develop their business skills.

Jamie Montgomery, president of the Business Students' Association, says he'd been on campus a year in an arts program before he even knew where the business building was, let alone the range of options he had for studying there. With a day that includes presentations by the dean and other dignitaries and a chance to "class shadow" with current students, this group of young entrepreneurs will know their way around, before they even enrol.

"Very simply, they're the students who have the entrepreneurial spirit. They will be the leaders of tomorrow," says Montgomery.

Rebeca Rodas, a Grade 10 student from M.E. Lazerte School attended class with current student Terry Daniels. She learned about futures and commodities and heard

a lot about pigs and pork, she says. "I was surprised that I understood what they were talking about...It was a great experience. They matched people [high school students] with people who wanted to do the same things as I did. I got to learn why people take some of the classes they do, and why it's important."

Rodas' business partner in their Junior Achievement flower-arranging business Cynthia Agyeman sat in on organizational analysis 201. "We talked about objectives, how you can set them, how you can get feedback from people around you on them....The program was great and I look forward to coming back here."

Faculty of Business alumni president Eric Hayne says the day was the first part of "a strategic alliance with Junior Achievement." He hopes to initiate a job-shadowing program with between Junior Achievement participants and business alumni. "We're going to try to awaken our alumni and give them something non-monetary to do," he says. "It's a fairly important initiative as far as the university is concerned." Hayne says he'd like to have students clear about what the U of A has to offer before they get a pitch from other universities. ■

a delicate balance

Edward Albee

Directed by NEIL MUNRO

Set and Costumes Designed by LESLIE FRANKISH

Lighting Designed by KEVIN LAMOTTE

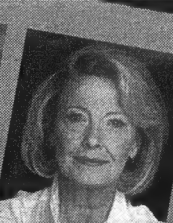
A Pulitzer Prize-winning drama
by Edward Albee, writer of
Three Tall Women and
Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?

"One of Albee's best..." NEW YORK POST

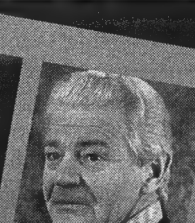
"Albee's incisive, disturbing and ultimately very funny... a marvellous cast that could be called all-star"
TORONTO SUN



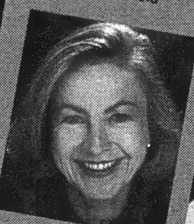
Fiona Reid



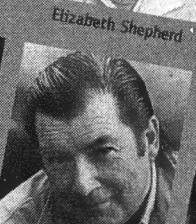
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Roland Hewgill



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Student skis and shoots her way to the Olympic Games

Kristin Berg on national biathlon team

By Michael Robb

She's five-foot five-inches, weighs about 125 pounds. But don't let that fool you. Kristin Berg is an awesome athlete—capable of shooting with the utmost precision and skiing at warp speeds.

The University of Alberta forestry student has once again qualified to compete at the Olympic Games, this year held in Nagano, Japan. It's not her first invitation to the dance: she also competed four years ago at Lillehammer, Norway.

"She is a mentally tough competitor, and when she decides to race nothing stops her. She gives it everything she has right to the end," says her coach Geret Coyne, Biathlon Canada's national coach based on Canmore. "She has a body and a muscle type that is power-oriented. She is a naturally strong person."

That strength and determination has propelled her to the upper ranks of international biathlon competition. Two years ago, the 29-year-old was 14th at the world championships. Her goal is to climb back

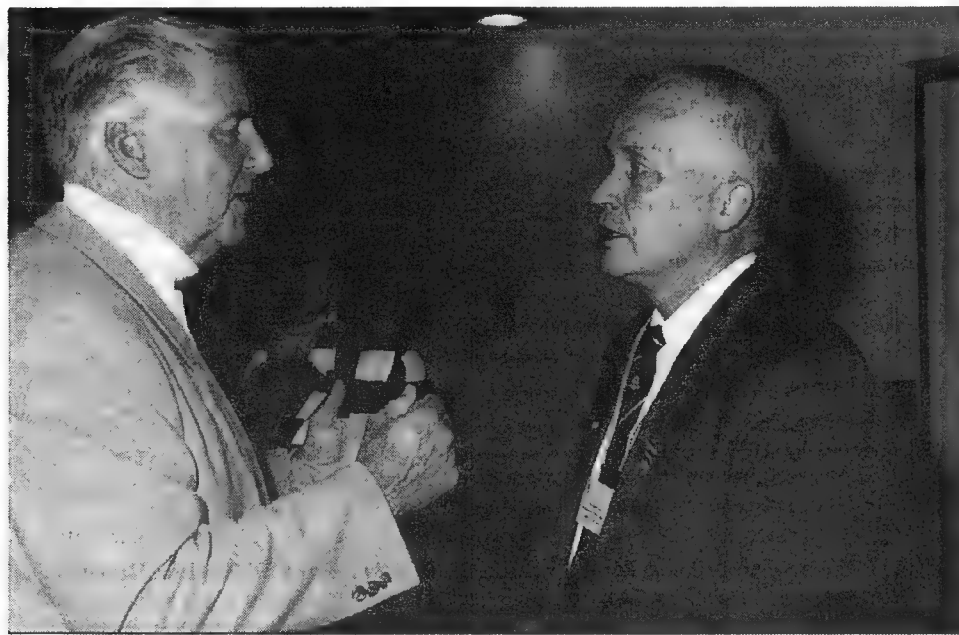
into those ranks. There are three events: the individual, sprint and relay races.

"I don't think we've seen her fastest skiing or best shooting yet," says Coyne.

The Calgary native joins legendary Olympian Myriam Bédard, the Quebec biathlete who became Canada's only two-time gold medalist in any Olympic sport. Also on the women's team are BC's Michelle Collard and Ontario's Nikki Keddie.

Berg has juggled her commitments to her sport and her studies. In the first two years of her program she took extra courses in spring and summer. And she lightened her course load while in Edmonton. Here, she trains at the Strathcona range and at Goldbar Park. Much of her training, however, happens in Canmore.

"It's a pretty tough balance to maintain," says Coyne. "Both, school and biathlon, are demanding. Edmonton is a good place to train, but there's really a need for a biathlon range there." ■



Mayors' Brunch

Edmonton Mayor Bill Smith chats with U of A President Rod Fraser at a January 31 Faculty Club brunch for mayors from across the province.

1998-99 KILLAM ANNUAL PROFESSORSHIPS

Applications for the 1998-99 Killam Annual Professorships are now available. All regular, continuing, full-time, academic faculty members who are not on leave during 1998-9 are eligible to apply. Deans, Department Chairs and other senior University administrators shall not normally be eligible for Killam Annual Professorships. Up to eight Killam Annual Professors will be selected by a subcommittee of the Killam Trusts Committee; no more than two Professorships shall be awarded to staff members in any one Faculty. Each Killam Annual Professor shall be presented with a \$2500 prize and a commemorative scroll. The duties of Killam Annual Professors shall not be changed from those that they regularly perform as academic staff members.

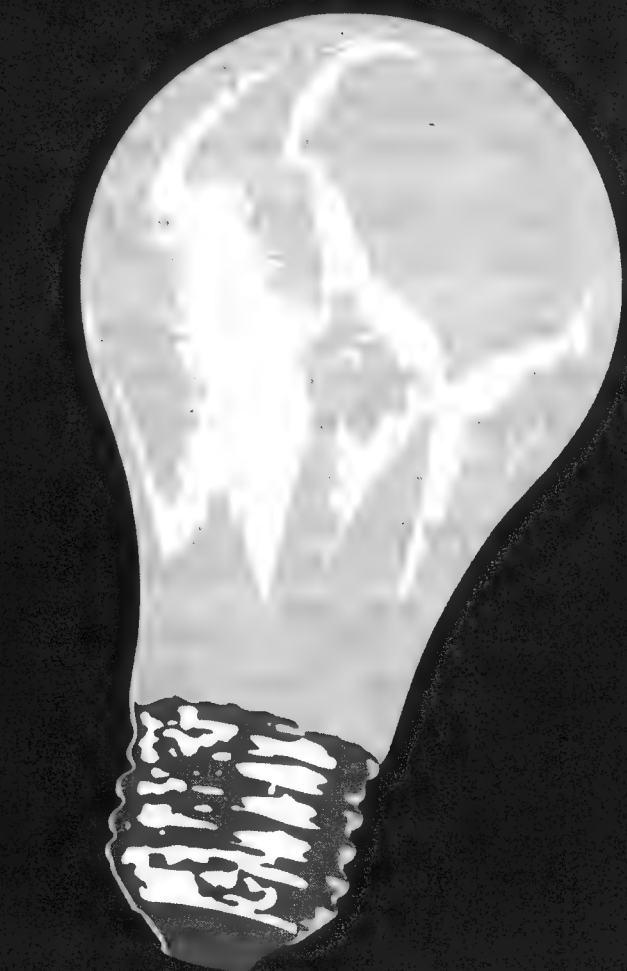
The primary criterion for selection shall be a record of outstanding scholarship and teaching over three or more years, as evidenced by any or all of research, publications, creative activities, presented papers, supervision of graduate students, and courses taught. The secondary criterion shall be a substantial contribution to the community beyond

the university by linking the applicant's university responsibilities and activities to community needs and/or development.

Awards are tenable for twelve months commencing 1 July 1998. The completed application must be received in the Office of the Vice-President (Research and External Affairs), 3-12 University Hall, by **Friday 27 February 1998 at 4:30 pm**, attention Katharine Moore. The awardees shall be announced by early May, and they will be formally recognized at the Killam Dinner in the autumn of 1998 which is hosted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

Applications and further details are available on the home page of the Vice-President (Research and External Affairs) at: <http://www.ualberta.ca/~univhall/vp/vprea>.

Please contact Annette Kujda, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Vice-President (Research and External Affairs) at extension 8342 or email: annette.kujda@ualberta.ca if you have any questions.



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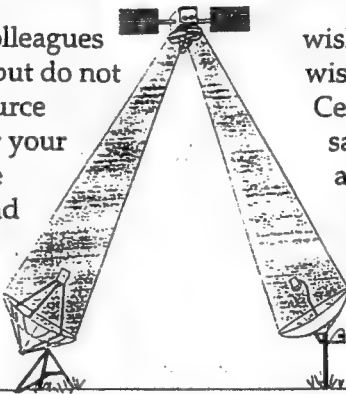
GSA Executive Elections And Dental Plan Referendum

Voting Days: **February 11th and 12th**
Advance Polls: **February 4th and 5th**

For more information contact the GSA @ 2175. Watch for our "Currents" Election Supplement in the Gateway on February 3rd for voting locations and election information

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appointments

laurels

DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL

OF NATIVE STUDIES AND NEW DEAN OF STUDENTS APPOINTED

Dr. Frank Tough has been appointed director of the School of Native Studies for a five-year term effective July 1, 1998.

Tough is currently a professor and former head of the native studies department at the University of Saskatchewan. A graduate of York University (PhD), McGill (MA) and University of Winnipeg (BA, BEd), Tough's doctoral work specialized in geography, specifically the historical cultural geography of native peoples and regional economic development. In addition to his academic endeavors, he has become increasingly involved as an expert witness and researcher for treaty and aboriginal rights litigation, permitting him to apply research skills and background knowledge of issues concerning aboriginal communities.

Dr. William Connor, currently associate dean (student programs and planning) in the Faculty of Arts, has been appointed dean of students for a five year term effective June 1, 1998.

Connor joined the university's English department in 1982 and was associate chair of the department from 1987-89. He also served as acting associate dean in the Faculty of Arts for one year prior to his current appointment. His teaching areas include Canadian literature, major Canadian essayists and American literature. Connor holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of New Brunswick and obtained a master's degree in journalism from the University of Western Ontario. ■

DEMERS APPOINTED TO SSHRC

Dr. Patricia Ann Demers is one of nine new members appointed to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. Demers chairs the U of A Department of English. She is a specialist in Renaissance literature and has also written extensively on children's literature. She was appointed to the U of A faculty in 1977 after completing her PhD at the University of Ottawa. Prior to that she worked as a high school teacher in Ontario. She is the recipient of many teaching awards and has received various research grants from SSHRC. Demers has also served as co-chair of a national conference on scholarly publishing, as former managing editor of the learned journal *English Studies in Canada*, and as past chair of the University of Alberta Press Committee.

KEATING NAMED PRESIDENT OF GERONTOLOGY ASSOCIATION

Dr. Norah Keating, professor of human ecology, has been installed as president of the Canadian Association of Gerontology. Keating's research at the U of A has looked at the cost to society of having families care for frail seniors and the implications of moving from a patient-oriented care model to a client-centred model.

STUDENTS NEEDED!

The terms of office of students serving on General Faculties Council (GFC) standing committees and committees to which GFC elects members will expire on April 30, 1998. Undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to APPLY NOW to serve on any of the following committees for terms of office beginning May 1, 1998 and ending April 30, 1999.

ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (APC)

Members must be available at 2:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS, ACADEMIC STANDING AND TRANSFER (CAAST)

Only undergraduate students are required. Membership includes at least one student who has transferred from a college in Alberta. Members must be available at 9:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of every month, excluding summer months.

CAMPUS LAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (CLRC)

Members must be available at 9:30 a.m. on the last Thursday of every month, excluding summer months.

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (FDC)

Only undergraduate students are required. There are no set meeting times.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE (LC)

Members must be available at 8:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month, excluding summer months.

TEACHING AND LEARNING COMMITTEE (TLC)

Members must be available at 1:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month, excluding summer months.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE (UASC)

Only undergraduate students are required. There are no set meeting times.

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING AWARDS COMMITTEE (UTAC)

Only undergraduate students are required. There are no set meeting times.

ACADEMIC APPEALS COMMITTEE (AAC) (Regular and Alternate Members)

The busiest time for this committee is from August through November, but it may meet occasionally during the remainder of the year. Appeals are often held in the evenings.

UNIVERSITY APPEAL BOARD (UAB) (Regular and Alternate Members)

This committee meets on an as-needed basis; therefore, availability of members throughout the year is desirable. Normally, terms of office are 2 years. Appeals are often held in the evenings.

COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE (COSL)

COSL and its subcommittees meet at various times throughout the year.

Information about the committees and application forms are available in Room 2-5, University Hall. Applications should be completed and returned to the University Secretariat by **Friday, February 27, 1998**. Students interested in serving on committees are invited to contact the Coordinator, GFC Nominating Committee, 2-5, University Hall (492-1938/4965; e-mail: val.pemberton@ualberta.ca).

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ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

February 9, 10 a.m.
Jens Coorsen, Visiting Fellow, National Institutes of Health, NICHD, Bethesda, Maryland, "Exocytosis: Testing the SNARE Hypothesis." Presented by Cell Biology and Anatomy. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

February 16, 10 a.m.
Jialing Lin, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics, Texas A&M University of Health Science Center, College Station, Texas, "Membrane Protein Integration: A Complex Multistep Process Revealed by Fluorescence and Photocross-Linking Studies." Presented by Cell Biology and Anatomy. 5-10 Medical Sciences Building.

ALBERTA HERITAGE FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MEDICAL GENETICS

February 11, noon
Carolyn Brown, Assistant Professor, Department of Medical Genetics, University of British Columbia, "X Chromosome Inactivation: Causes and Consequences." 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

February 13, noon
Barry Cooke, "Forest Tent Caterpillar Population Dynamics II. The Influence of Dispersal Refugia on Population Synchrony and Persistence." M-229 Biological Sciences Centre.

February 13, 3 p.m.
David S. Hibbett, Harvard University Herbaria, Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University, Cambridge, "Phylogeny and Morphological Diversification in Mushroom-Forming Fungi." M-145 Biological Sciences Centre.

MOLECULAR BIOLOGY AND GENETICS RESEARCH GROUP

February 6, 4 p.m.
Luc Berthiaume, "Protein Palmitoylation: New Roles in Cellular Signalling and Metabolic Regulation." G-116 Biological Sciences Centre.

February 13, 4 p.m.
Usukuma Ekuere, "The Genetic Control of Self-Incompatibility in Canola: Beyond the S. locus." G-116 Biological Sciences Building.

CANADIAN INSTITUTE OF UKRAINIAN STUDIES

February 6, 3:30 p.m.
Mark von Hagen, Columbia University, "The Russian Imperial Army and the Ukrainian National Movement in 1917." 352 Athabasca Hall.

CENTRE FOR CRIMINOLOGICAL RESEARCH AND FORENSIC ASSESSMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

February 9, 4:30 p.m.
The Nettler Lecture. Cathy Spatz Widom, The University of Albany, "Revisiting the 'Cycle of Violence'." TBW-1 Tory Breezeway.

ECO-RESEARCH CHAIR IN ENVIRONMENTAL RISK MANAGEMENT

February 6, 3 p.m.
Gerald Wilde, Department of Psychology, Queen's University, "Risk Homeostasis Theory: An Overview." 2F1.04 (Classroom D), Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre.

FACULTÉ SAINT-JEAN

February 10, 7:30 p.m.
Jean Bour, "Le nationalisme apres la guerre de 1870: l'image de l'Allemand chez Jules Verne." 3-58 Faculté Saint-Jean.

NURSING

February 6, noon
Lynn Skillen, "Learning Contracts for Self-Directed Learning." 6-102 Clinical Sciences Building.

NURSING AND THE HOPE FOUNDATION

February 18, 2:30 p.m.
Kaye Herth, Professor and Chair, Department of Nursing, Georgia Southern University, "Understanding Hope: Implications for Research and Practice." 2J4.02 (Classroom F) Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre.

PERINATAL RESEARCH CENTRE

February 17, 4 p.m.
Peter Olley, "The Ductus arteriosus: Recent Research and Clinical Developments." 207 Heritage Medical Research Centre.

PHILOSOPHY

February 6, 3:30 p.m.
Martin Tweedale, "An Avicennian View of Abstract Entities." 4-29 Humanities Centre.

February 13, 3:30 p.m.
Karen Pilkington and David Kahane, "Aristotle on Justice and Friendship." 4-29 Humanities Centre.

RENEWABLE RESOURCES

February 12, 12:30 p.m.
Yongsheng Feng, "The Other Side of Darcy's Law." 2-36 Earth Sciences Building.

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES

February 11, noon
Alvin M. Schrader, "The Theory and Practice of Internet Filtering." Information: 492-4578. 3-01 Rutherford South.

February 13, 8 p.m.

Music at Convocation Hall with Pianist Marek Jablonski. Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student and senior. Convocation Hall.

February 14, 8 p.m.

Master of Music Recital—David England, saxophone. Convocation Hall.

SPORTS

BASKETBALL

February 20 and 21, 6:30 p.m.
Pandas vs. UBC

February 20 and 21, 8:15 p.m.
Bears vs. UBC

HOCKEY

February 20 and 21, 7:30 p.m.
Bears vs. Saskatchewan

VOLLEYBALL

February 6, 6:30 p.m.
Pandas vs. Calgary

February 6, 8 p.m.
Bears vs. Calgary

February 7, 6:30 p.m.
Bears vs. Calgary

February 7, 8 p.m.
Pandas vs. Calgary

THEATRE

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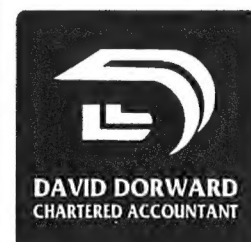
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MCMULLEN GALLERY

Until March 2
"Magic Myth and Make-Believe"—an exhibition of the work of twelve local artists in a variety of media. Gallery hours: Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 5 to 8 p.m. (subject to availability of volunteers). Information: 492-8428 or 492-4211. Mackenzie Health Sciences Centre.

MUSIC

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

February 6 and 7, 8 p.m.
Opera Scenes. Alan Ord, director. Admission: \$7/adult, \$5/student and senior. Convocation Hall.

February 9, 12:10 p.m.
Music at Noon—Convocation Hall Student Recital Series featuring students from the Department of Music. Convocation Hall.

February 9, 8 p.m.
Faculty Recital—Roger Admiral, piano. Admission: \$10/adult, \$5/student and senior. Convocation Hall.

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positions

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MANAGER, APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT COMPUTING AND NETWORK SERVICES

The Computing and Network Services Department invites applications for the position of Manager—Application Development.

The management scope of this position currently includes systems support and Y2K conversion/MVS decommissioning for administrative functions. Also in scope is a special project to deliver a technical environment for distributed learning. Specific responsibilities include: managing overall work plans and release schedules; assigning and following-up project-level issues and change requests; project-level resource planning—skills, succession planning and training; ensuring quality assurance and risk mitigating actions; and communicating with campus to inform them of progress and issues, particularly Y2K.

Reporting to the PMO director, this position will also play a key role in the application of best practices in all institution-wide support and development initiatives. This position calls for an individual with three to five years of project management experience, ideally managing a legacy systems support environment and systems/data conversion projects. The candidate must be very knowledgeable of project management best practices and have proven ability to implement technical projects.

This is a full-time continuing position starting immediately. Salary is commensurate with experience. Please submit a CV and 3 letters of reference by February 20, 1998 to

Barry Scott
Director—Program Management Office
Computing & Network Services
369 General Services Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2H1
FAX: 492-1729

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL OFFICER ACCOUNTANT, GENERAL ACCOUNTING SECTION, FINANCIAL SERVICES

Position Description: The primary functions of the General Accounting Section of Financial Services are the accounting for the U of A's operating and capital activities, the maintenance of the overall accounting infrastructure for the institution and the provision of advice and service to the university's clients with regard thereto. With the assistance of a staff of 15, the accountant is responsible for all aspects of the management of the section. Duties include responsibility for the development of, recommendations for, and implementation of, policy changes and service or procedural improvements in these areas. The unit is presently in the process of transition to a personal computer based relational database management system (PeopleSoft) within a client-server environment.

Qualifications: Qualified applicants will possess a recognized professional accounting designation, several years of related experience at the university and significant experience in the supervision of staff. Applicants must have well-developed written and oral communication skills. Necessary skills include a strong working knowledge of personal computer

applications. The unit has adopted Microsoft Office Professional as the preferred toolset; competence in its use will be an important consideration. The successful candidate will be able to interact with staff members of the organization at all levels and exercise sound judgment and tact when providing service to clients. Some formal training and experience in university main frame processing would be a useful asset. An equivalent combination of training and experience will be considered.

Rank and Salary: The general accountant reports to the chief accountant. Salary range for the position is \$39,656 to \$59,480.

Applications: Eligible candidates must be presently employed by the University of Alberta; the acting incumbent is a candidate for this position. Candidates' applications/resumes should clearly demonstrate their relevant qualifications. Applications should be forwarded to

Mrs. Ellen Kvill
Administrative Assistant
Office of the Comptroller
343 Administration Building
University of Alberta
Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2M7

Deadline for receipt of applications is Feb 20, 1998. Acknowledgement of receipt of applications will be provided only to those candidates selected for interview.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL OFFICER DEPARTMENT OF CELL BIOLOGY AND ANATOMY

The Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy invites applications for the position of administrative professional officer.

Reporting to the department chair, the APO is responsible for the planning, establishment and maintenance of an administrative support system to facilitate the research and teaching functions of the department and assumes the following duties:

Operating and Capital Budget and Trust Accounts—preparation, management and control including initiating new accounts, investigating and proposing cost-sharing opportunities, monitoring non-budget items such as graduate student scholarships.

Providing ongoing management of personnel related matters through an efficient office support system which includes posting, hiring, assessing, payroll and coordination of work surroundings, equipment and upgrading and training.

Maintaining the Honours and Specialty Undergraduate Cell Biology Program including timetabling, course registration, committee servicing and the preparation and distribution of information.

Contributing to the development of departmental policy and special projects. Researches, recommends, plans, implements, and guides policy/procedure changes and new initiatives of department council.

Contributing to the aggressive pursuit of the department's recruitment of faculty and graduate students through effective administration of the university's advertising and immigration policies and the ability to coordinate an efficient relocation agenda.

Maintaining close liaison with university service and administrative faculties and departments as well as visiting dignitaries and external organizations such as external funding agencies.

We are looking for a competent and dedicated professional who possesses exceptional organizational, supervisory, decision-making and interpersonal skills to fill this position in an administrative unit that is in a state of scientific expansion and change. The ideal candidate will have five to eight years prior experience in a senior administrative position in a university or post-secondary setting and will have an accredited background in budget and accounting.

Applicants should be fully conversant with Windows 95, Microsoft Office program, Excel accounting package and the university mainframes system (SIGL, PIMS, CARS, etc), and the ability to develop and maintain databases (Access) would definitely be an asset. The incumbent will exhibit an aptitude for communication with a wide variety of individuals and a high level of tact and diplomacy.

Salary Range: \$32,970 - \$49,458.

This position is available immediately. Applicants are invited to submit their resume and three references on or before February 27, 1998, Dr. R.A. Rachubinski, Chair
Department of Cell Biology and Anatomy
5-14 Medical Sciences Building
University of Alberta
T6G 2H7

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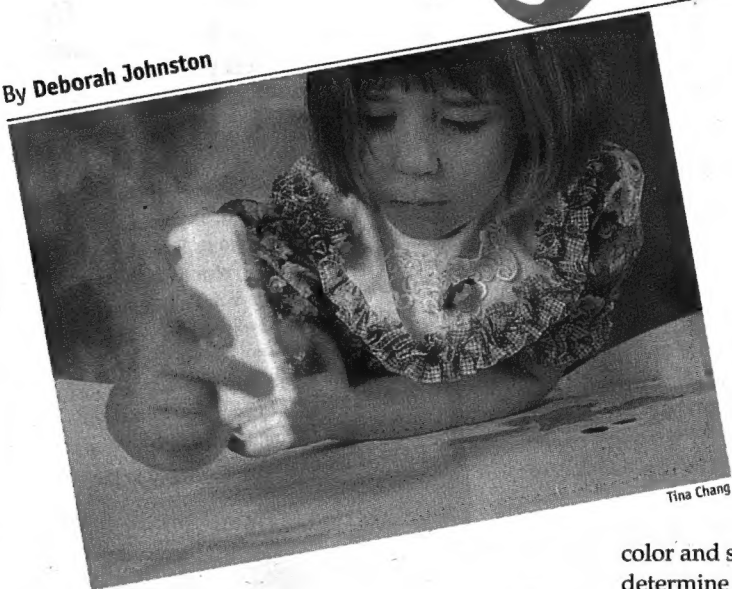
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The language of Children's Art

By Deborah Johnston



Tina Chang

The lanky creature four-year-old Heather created with a green felt pen is no ordinary stick figure. "It's my dad," she declares. And as far as her dad, Guy Mallabone, is concerned, it's the best depiction of himself he's ever seen. "I think it's fantastic," he laughs.

Such whole-hearted appreciation for children's art isn't reserved for parents. Anthropologists, doctors, psychologists and forensic specialists have long been interested in what children's pictures say. "Along with other data, children's drawings can be used as measures of intellectual growth, emotional maturity and mental well-being," says Dr. Marlene Cox-Bishop, associate professor of human ecology.

"Kids often emphasize the parts that are most important to them in communicating," she notes. A child who loves to pick apples may depict a figure with exaggerated fingers or the child of an aloof mother may draw her without arms.

After collecting the artwork of more than a thousand children from around the world, Cox-Bishop knows children's pictures transcend language and cultural barriers. "We learn to communicate through drawing long before we can read or

"We learn to
communicate through
drawing long before
we can read or write
about our ideas and
our response to the
world."

—Dr. Marlene Cox-Bishop,
associate professor of
human ecology

write about our ideas and our response to the world," she says.

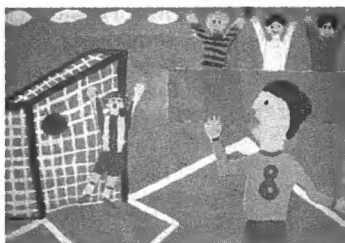
In a cross-cultural study, Cox-Bishop compared Inuit children's drawings with those of American mid-western children. Item by item she examined the drawings of each child, noting technique, line quality, use of

color and space—and tried to statistically determine any gender differences. What she found surprised her: there were very few differences. A child's art is reflective of his or her culture, she says, and maybe each of the children had been similarly influenced by satellite television, common text-books and teachers educated in a southern culture.

What surprised her more, however, was discovering that no matter where children live, their visual consciousness develops at the same rate. "All kids learn to draw, learn to represent the world at about the same stages, which is incredible. Although the cultural information such as

specific games, costumes and houses may change, generally how kids organize space, forms, stick figures, or Mr. Potato Heads—happens at about the same age everywhere. It blew me away."

Developing visual literacy is important, Cox-Bishop says, because 80 per cent of the messages that bombard us are



Hungarian Boy, age 14, Football Match

visual, not written. "Visual literacy is the ability to read the images, the visual environment," she says, and children have it naturally, if briefly. "We lose those skills. They atrophy."

The ability to represent the world visually comes from the intuitive, emotional, right hemisphere of the brain, she says. Our culture emphasizes the more logical, linear, left hemisphere. In the process, we squelch a child's creativity. "We pin their notion of whether they're successful on good grades in science and math and forget about the kid who could write a poem that would knock your socks off, or paint a picture—what about those kids and that part of the brain?"

That part of the brain may help children find creative solutions to problems. "If they have to solve a problem that might represent deep space

or multiple points of view, they just invent a solution...I just love how naive and innocent they are."

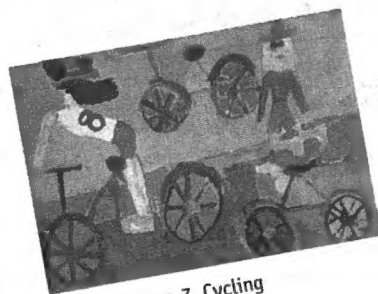
Renowned artists have had the same appreciation. "Picasso was known to have collected kids' art. He didn't collect it because he wanted to go back and copy the children's artistic solutions; he loved its spontaneity."

Ironically, that original and personal quality cherished in a child's drawing is often scorned in an adult's. "On one hand, we appreciate children's art because it's lovely and unsophisticated," Cox-Bishop notes, "then we judge a modern artist by the fact that his art doesn't appear to be sophisticated. When we say, 'ha! my six-year-old kid could do that,' we have forgotten something important. Perhaps that artist is yet a child, still has that child-like ability to look at the relationships of line and color and shape." What's more, she says, we forget that a child's drawing captures a wondrous and fleeting moment in time. Heather's dad agrees. "Her pictures speak to where she was at this time in her life. They are so important. They tell me she's happy; they tell me she loves me."

How long will he keep Heather's latest artwork? He smiles. "Forever." ■



Pablo Picasso, Mandolin and Guitar, 1924



Polish Girl, age 7, Cycling



Tina Chang

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